**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please REPLACE the paragraph on page 3, lines 6-15 of the Substitute Specification with the following amended paragraph:

Another person proposed a method of making a plastic substrate of a composite material, in which a resin and a filler are mixed together, in order to increase the thermal resistance and dimensional stability thereof. A substrate made of a composite material will be referred to herein as a “composite substrate”. For example, Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open Publication No. ~~11-2181~~11-2812 discloses a reflective conductive substrate including a composite substrate, which is obtained by impregnating a piece of glass fiber cloth with a resin.

Please REPLACE the paragraph bridging pages 17 and 18 of the Substitute Specification with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in FIG. **1(c)**, in the composite substrate **10**, the principal refractive index $n_x$ of the x-axis, along which the fibers **11** are arranged, is greater than the principal refractive index $n_y$ of the y-axis or the principal refractive index $n_z$ of the z-axis. The principal refractive indices $n_y$ and $n_z$ of the y- and z-axes are substantially equal to each other. The principal refractive indices of the composite substrate **10** satisfy the relationship $\underline{n_x>n_y\square n_z}\cancel{n_y>n_x\square n_z}$. Accordingly, light that has been vertically incident onto the principal surface of the composite substrate **10** has an in-plane retardation Rp between a polarized component (linearly polarized light ray) parallel to the x-axis and a polarized component (linearly polarized light ray) parallel to the y-axis. The magnitude of the in-plane retardation Rp is given by $Rp=d\cdot(n_y-n_x)$, where d is the thickness of the composite substrate **10**. It should be noted that the retardations R of the composite substrate **10** normally include not only the in-plane retardation Rp but also a retardation Rth in thickness direction as well.

Please REPLACE the paragraph bridging pages 23 and 24 of the Substitute Specification with the following amended paragraph:

The composite substrate **20** includes fibers **21** and a resin matrix **22**. The fibers **21** are arranged in two orthogonal directions (e.g., in x-axis and y-axis directions in this preferred embodiment) within a substrate plane. In this preferred embodiment, the fibers **21** are arranged in two different layers such that the fibers **21** arranged in the x-axis direction do not contact with the fibers **21** arranged in the y-axis direction as shown in FIG. **~~1~~2(b).** Alternatively, the fibers **21** arranged in the x-axis direction may contact with the fibers **21** arranged in the y-axis direction. That is to say, the fibers **21** may be prepared as a fabric (e.g., a woven fabric). When the fibers **21** are prepared as a fabric, the fibers **21** may be woven by any of various weaving methods including plain weaving, sateen weaving and twill weaving.

Please REPLACE the paragraph on page 35, lines 7-17 of the Substitute Specification with the following amended paragraph:

Each of the plastic substrates used as the substrates **81** and **82** includes fibers that are arranged in two orthogonal directions **86** as in the plastic substrate **20** or **30** shown in FIG. **2** or **3**. For example, the substrate **81** may be a counter substrate in which a counter electrode is provided on one principal surface of the substrate **81** so as to face the liquid crystal layer **83**. On the other hand, the substrate **82** may be an active-matrix substrate in which transparent pixel electrodes, TFTs and other circuit components (none of which are shown) are provided on one principal surface of the substrate **82** so as to face the liquid crystal layer **~~63~~83**, too.